



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

Public Notice/Application No.: 1999-15039-LSF
Comment Period: 08/01/1999 through 08/31/1999

Applicant

Mr. Richard Straub
Yavapai County Public Works
1100 Commerce Drive
Prescott, Arizona 86301

Location

In Granite Creek at (Section 36, T15N, R2W; and Sections 31, 32, & 33, T15N, R1W), Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona.

Activity

To construct approximately 3.8 miles of new roadway connecting U.S. Highway 89 south of the Prescott Airport to U.S. Highway 89A approximately 2.5 miles east of the current intersection. For more information, see page 3 of this notice and attached drawings.

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for the activity described herein and shown on the attached drawing(s). Interested parties are invited to provide their views on the proposed work, which will become a part of the record and will be considered in the decision. This permit application will be issued or denied under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Comments should be mailed to:

**U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTENTION: Regulatory Branch (1999-15039-LSF)
3636 North Central Avenue, Suite 760
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-1936**

Evaluation Factors

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Factors that will be considered include conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, if the proposal would discharge dredged or fill material, the evaluation of the activity will include application of the EPA Guidelines (40 CFR 230) as required by Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Preliminary Review of Selected Factors

EIS Determination- A preliminary determination has been made that an environmental impact statement is not required for the proposed work.

Water Quality- The applicant will be required to obtain water quality certification, under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and/or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For any proposed activity on Tribal land that is subject to Section 404 jurisdiction, the applicant will be required to obtain water quality certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For any proposed activity on land other than Tribal land that is subject to Section 404 jurisdiction, the applicant will be required to obtain water quality certification from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires that any applicant for an individual Section 404 permit provide proof of water quality certification to the Corps of Engineers.

Cultural Resources- Three sites, potentially eligible for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places, will be affected by the project as proposed. The State Historic Preservation Office, on March 19, 1999, concurred with a data recovery plan proposed by SWCA, Inc. The plan is entitled "Archaeological Data Recovery Plan for the Airport Connector Right-of-Way North of Prescott, Arizona." SWCA has initiated the Recovery Plan, but has not yet completed the work. This review constitutes the extent of cultural resources investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources.

Endangered Species- Preliminary determinations indicate that the proposed activity would not affect federally-listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat. Therefore, formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act does not appear to be required at this time.

Public Hearing- Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearing shall state with particularity the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Proposed Activity for Which a Permit is Required

To construct approximately 20,000-feet (3.8 miles) of new roadway connecting U.S. Highway 89 south of the Prescott airport at the proposed Pioneer Parkway terminus, with U.S. 89A approximately 2.5 miles east of the existing U.S. 89/U.S. 89A intersection to accommodate and convey the projected 20-year traffic growth for this rapidly growing region and to provide connectivity to the regional transportation system, and specifically: **1.** To construct an intersection at U.S. 89 and the proposed new roadway [Station 332+00 to Station 344+00]. This western terminus of the proposed roadway will connect with Pioneer Parkway and will include **the realignment of an existing ephemeral unnamed wash** (approximately .91 acres of impact to jurisdictional waters in Sections 35, & 36, T15N, R2W) into an unlined 745-foot drainage channel to the western edge of U.S. 89. From U.S. 89 the new channel will continue an additional 635-feet in a 3 barrel 10-foot by 8-foot concrete box culvert to Larry Caldwell Drive to the north; **2. To construct a 358-foot long double three-span prestressed precast AASHTO Type VI concrete I girder bridge** [Station 388+00 to 407+00], with cast in place concrete deck **across Granite Creek** (approximately 3.79 acres of permanent impact and 1.14 acres of temporary construction impact to jurisdictional waters in Section 36, T15N, R2W, and Section 31, T15N, R1W). Bridge abutments, bank protection, and one of the four pier groupings will be constructed outside jurisdictional waters. The remaining three pier groupings will be constructed in jurisdictional waters. Each pier would be constructed by drilling a shaft into the streambed and filling the vertical shaft with concrete. Immediately east of the bridge an approximately 1560-foot branch of Granite Creek will be filled for construction of the road bed. This area of fill is approximately 2.95 acres of impact within jurisdictional waters, and is a portion of the total 3.79 acres of impact; **3.** To construct a new intersection at Side Road [Station 424+00 to 434+00], approximately 8,000-feet east of U.S. 89, to provide access to 11 existing single-family homes, and to facilitate the development of a 200- plus lot subdivision immediately south of the proposed roadway. The intersection will include **the diversion of approximately 1.18 acres of jurisdictional ephemeral waters** (Section 31, T15N, R1W) through 235-feet of two 48-inch diameter corrugated metal pipes, 365-feet of unlined trapezoidal drainage channel, 420-feet of a double 12-foot by 12-foot concrete box culvert, and 764-feet of unlined trapezoidal channel. Approximately 1150-feet of two unnamed ephemeral washes (approximately .36 acres of impact of the total 1.18 acres of impact to jurisdictional waters) would be filled for construction of the road bed. A remaining 1630-feet of wash would be abandoned, and flows would be cut-off by the diversion; **4. To install a 255-foot long 48-inch diameter corrugated metal pipe culvert** [Station 440+00 to 444+00], in an unnamed ephemeral wash (approximately .10 acres of impact to jurisdictional waters) to convey flows underneath the proposed roadway

Additional Project Information None.

Proposed Special Conditions

None at this time.

For additional information please call Larry S. Flatau at (602) 640-5385 x 225. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Branch.